

Preface

In 1961, in the mid-winter of the Cold War, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Adlai Stevenson, normally a liberal internationalist, rejected the idea that the People's Republic of China might become a more harmonious member of the international community if it were allowed to participate in the United Nations. By contrast, a handful of diplomats and scholars argued that only when the People's Republic was welcomed into the United Nations could it and would it become a good international citizen. Which side was correct? Thirty-six years after the People's Republic replaced Taiwan as the official representative of China in the United Nations, and then in a host of other international organizations, we have enough distance from events to subject the question to rigorous scrutiny.

During the period I have researched this topic, I have been helped by a swathe of officials in international organizations, in particular the Conference on Disarmament, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Labour Organization, and the UN Committee against Torture. First and foremost, however, I am indebted to the Australian Research Council, which made this book possible by awarding me successive fellowships, including generous support for fieldwork. In my first fellowship, held in the Law Program, Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University (ANU), I enjoyed the support of John Braithwaite, Peter Cane, Jane Stapleton, and Chris Treadwell. Thanks are due in particular to John, who supported the project throughout and made many valuable suggestions. During my second fellowship, in the Centre for International and Public Law, ANU College of Law, I benefited from the wisdom

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